

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The invention provides new methods of preventing and/or treating herpes virus infections, particularly reducing infection, one or more symptoms and recurrence of one or more symptoms of herpes simplex virus infection. A polynucleotide comprising an immunostimulatory sequence (an "ISS") is administered to an individual which is at risk of being exposed to *alphaherpesvirinae*, has been exposed to *alphaherpesvirinae* or is infected with *alphaherpesvirinae*. The ISS is administered without any *alphaherpesvirinae* antigens. Administration of the ISS results in reduced incidence, recurrence, and severity of one or more symptoms of *alphaherpesvirinae* infection